

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 IO-12 AID-20 DPW-01 RSR-01 /116 W  
----- 055460

P R 280245 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 889

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 7405

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: DAILY MR 3 SITREP 27 APRIL 1973

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL BIEN HOA BEIING REPEATED

QUOTE

BIEN HOA 0095

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 27 APRIL 1973

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT VILI VS

1. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN MR 3 REMAINED AT REDUCED LEVEL DURING THE  
24- HOUR PERIOD ENDING 0800 APRIL 27. THERE WERE 13 NVA/ VC- INITIATED

INCIDENTS REPORTED CONSISTING OF 4 ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF), 5 GROUND  
CONTACTS AND 4 MINE INCIDENTS. TON LE CHAM RANGER BASE CAMP  
RECEIVED

152 ROUNDS OF ASSORTED MORTAR AND ROCKET FIRE. NO CASUALTIES WERE  
REPORTED. THE COMMUNISTS WERE REPORTED STILL USING LOUDSPEAKERS  
ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE THE RANGERS TO SURRENDER THE CAMP. AT 0230  
APRIL 27,. CAMP DEFENDERS HEARD A COMMUNIST VEHICLE CONVOY MOVING  
APPROXIMATELY 2 KMS NORTHWEST OF THE CAMP. THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF  
VEHICLES WERE UNKNOWN. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT OCCURRED AT  
1830 APRIL 26 WHEN ELEMENTS OF THE 52 ND ARVN INFANTRY REGIMENT  
RECEIVED 30 ROUNDS OF 82 MM MORTAR FIRE FOLLOWED BY A GROUND  
ATTACK

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8 KMS SOUTHWEST OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT TOWN, BIEN HOA PROVINCE. RESULTS WERE 1 FRIENDLY KILLED AND 2 WOUNDED. NVA/ VC CASUALTIES WERE UNKNOWN. MINE INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED IN BINH LONG, BINH DUONG, HAU NGHIA AND GIA DINH PROVINCES, INFLECTING TOTAL CASUALTIES OF 1 FRIENDLY KILLED AND 6 WOUNDED. MINOR GROUND CONTACTS AND ABFS WERE REPORTED IN BINH TUY, LONG AN, HAU NGHIA AND BINH DUONG PROVINCES, RESULTING IN TOTAL CASUALTIES FROM THESE INCIDENTS OF 1 FRIENDLY KILLED, 3 WOUNDED AND 4 COMMUNISTS KILLED.

2. ONE OF OUR III CORPS SOURCES HAS COME UP WITH WHAT APPEARS TO BE A PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THE ABSENCE OF PRG COMPLAINTS OF CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS BY THE GRVN IN MR 3. THE SOURCE BELIEVES THAT THE PRG MADE THIS DECISION TO AVOID SETTING A PRECEDENT WHICH THE ICCS COULD INSIST UPON BEING FOLLOWED IN ALL COMPLAINTS. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE FILING OF COMPLAINTS BY THE PRG WOULD MEAN INVESTIGATIONS, FOR THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS, UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, WOULD BEND OVER BACKWARDS TO GET THE INVESTIGATIONS UNDERWAY POST HASTE. IF THIS WERE TO HAPPEN, OUR SOURCE BELIEVES THAT THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS WOULD BE MORE EMBARRASSED THAN THEY ARE NOW BECAUSE THEY WOULD NECESSARILY BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT THE PRG POSITION REGARDLESS OF FACT. ONE WONDERS HOW THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS WOULD REACT IF THE CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS SUDDENLY DECIDED TO TAKE A PAGE OUT OF THE COMMUNIST BOOK ENTITLED HOW TO OBSTRUCT PROGRESS RPT HOW TO OBSTRUCT PROGRESS.

3. THE CANADIANS TOOK OVER THE ICCS REGION V CHAIRMANSHIP APRIL 23. A CANDEL WHO WAS IN XUAN LOC AT THE TIME VISITING THE ICCS TEAM TOLD US

THAT ON MONDAY MORNING, THE CANADIAN ICCS CHAIRMAN, XUAN LOC, CALLED

A MEETING OF THE FOUR MEMBER GROUP AND PRESENTED THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REPRESENTATIVES WITH A LIST OF GRIEVANCES AND PAPER WORK THAT HE STATED EQUALLED IN ONE DAY THE AMOUNT OF DOCUMENTS THAT THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS HAD PRODUCED DURING THEIR FULL TERM IN XUAN LOC. THE POLISH MEMBERS COMPLAINED BITTERLY THAT THEY COULD NOT REVIEW AND HANDLE ALL THE DOCUMENTS SINCE THEY DID NOT HAVE THE STAFF TO REVIEW AND MAKE APPROPRIATE COMMENTS. CANDEL STATED THAT IT ONLY TOOK TWO CANDELS ONE DAY TO PREPARE THE GRIEVANCES BASED ON CEASE- FIRE VIOLATIONS AND THAT THE STAFF AVAILABLE TO THEM WAS ALSO AVAILABLE TO THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATES. ( COMMENT: ANOTHER DELAYING TACTIC. END COMMENT.)

4. CANDEL STATED THAT INVESTIGATIONS HAD BEEN CONDUCTED ( NO SPECIFIC CONFIDENTIAL

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INVESTIGATIONS MENTIONED) AND THAT THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATES

IN THE PROVINCES HAD SEVERAL TACTICS THEY WERE USING IN MAKING THE ICCS INEFFECTIVE, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

EXAMPLE( A): AN OUTPOST WAS SHELLED WITH 34 ROUNDS OF 82 MM MORTAR, 30 ROUNDS LANDING IN THE COMPOUND AND 4 OUTSIDE THE

COMPOUND.

THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATES WHEN CONFRONTED WITH THE CEASE-FIRE VIOLATION STATED THAT SINCE 4 ROUNDS LANDED OUTSIDE THE COMPOUND

THERE MUST NOT HAVE BEEN AN INTENT TO VIOLATE THE CEASE-FIRE BY THE PRG; IT HAPPENED TO BE A TRAINING EXERCISE AND THERE WAS A MISCALCULATION ON RANGE AND DISTANCE.

EXAMPLE(B): WHEN THE POLISH DELEGATION IS PRESENTED WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC AND MATERIAL EVIDENCE THEY STATE THAT IT IS INSUFFICIENT BECAUSE THEY DID NOT PRESENT SIMILAR EVIDENCE; THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO OBSERVE THE SAME FACTS EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE PART OF THE DELEGATION.

EXAMPLE(C): WHEN PRESENTED WITH A WOUNDED SOLDIER OR CIVILIAN FOR QUESTIONING, THEY STATE THAT THEY CANNOT ACCEPT THEIR TESTIMONY AS TRUTHFUL SINCE THE INFORMATION IS BEING RECEIVED FROM INTERESTED PARTIES RPT INTERESTED PARTIES.

5. CANDEL STATED THAT CANDELS ASSIGNED TO THE PROVINCES ARE VERY FRUSTRATED AT THIS POINT. AN EXAMPLE OF THIS WAS RECENTLY DEMONSTRATED WHEN THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CANADIAN ICCS STATED

TO THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATES " WHEN WE DIRECT STRAIGHT QUESTIONS BEARING ON AN ISSUE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE STRAIGHT AND DIRECT ANSWERS". THIS STATEMENT SEEMED TO CAUSE SUBSTANTIAL DISCOMFORT TO THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATES.

6. THE ICCS REGION V ( BIEN HOA) CANDEL CHIEF TOLD US THAT AS OF LAST NIGHT, HE WAS NOT SURE WHETHER AN ICCS PRESENCE WOULD BE REQUESTED FOR THE EXCHANGE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE APRIL 27 AT LOC NINH AND APRIL 28 ELSEWHERE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. HE ALSO TOLD US THAT NEITHER THE RESUPPLY TRIP TO AN LOC NOR THE REGION V CHIEF- OF- DELEGATION TRIP TO PHUOC LONG HAVE BEEN RESCHEDULED AS YET, ALTHOUGH HE IS PUSHING FOR THE LATTER TO TAKE PLACE APRIL 28. WALKINSHAW UNQUOTE BUNKER

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NMAFVVZCZ

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0095 SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 27 APRIL 1973 E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS PINT VILI VS  
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